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What Is This, Mr. Shaw?

The foreign delegates to the Arbitration Conference soon to be held at St. Louis are regarded as the guests of the United States Government, to a certain extent. This is proper. Congress voted an appropriation of \$50,000 for their entertainment. That was right. The law which appropriates the \$50,000 provides that the money shall be expended under the direction of the Secretary of the Treasury. That seemed at the time to

be a good arrangement. Yesterday, however, it was publicly reported that Secretary SHAW, fearing that the \$50,000 would prove insufficient for the entertainment of three hundred peace loving foreigners, had "persuaded President Cassatt of the Pennsylvania Railroad to furnish two special trains for carrying the foreigners free of charge from New York."

Persuasion is a vague term when used in describing an official transaction between a member of President Rooss-VELT'S Cabinet and the management of a great railway corporation subject as a common carrier to the provisions of the laws regulating interstate commerce. In such negotiations the word persuasion has not a definitely fixed value, as Mr. CORTELYOU would testify.

But it happens to make very little difference whether in this instance "persussion" has the force of a requisition or demand, or merely signifies gentle entreaty by Secretary SHAW to Mr. CAS-SATT to help out the United States Government's pecuniary shortage by deadheading the three hundred delegates to St. Louis and back. The law is the same whether the common carrier yielded to moral intimidation or was graciously pleased to grant a favor to the Secretary of the Treasury in his capacity of General Passenger Agent of International Arbitration.

Section 6 of the Act to Regulate Commerce, as enacted in 1887 and amended in 1889, prohibits and declares unlawful any discrimination in fares for the transportation of passengers, or any deviation from the established and published schedules of such fares.

Section 10 of the same law makes the violation of any of its provisions a misdemeanor, punishable by a fine not to exceed \$5,000 for each offence. Where the misdemeanor is unlawful discrimination in passenger fares a yet severer punishment is imposed, as follows:

convicted as aforesaid shall be an unlawful discrimination in rates, fares or charges for the transportation of passengers of property, such person shall, in addition to the fine hereinbefore provided for, be liable to imprisonment in the penitentiary for a term not exceeding two years, or both such and imprisonment, in the discretion of the Court."

The so called Anti-Rebate act, put through by the Roosevelt Administration last year to facilitate the enforcement of the law against discriminations in interstate commerce, provides:

"Whenever the Interstate Commerce Commission shall have reasonable ground for bellef that any common carrier is engaged in the carriage of passengers or freight trame between given points at less than the published rates on file, or is committing any discriminations forbidden by law. a petition may be presented alleging such facts to the Circuit Court of the United States sitting in equity having jurisdiction . . . whereupon it shall be the duty of the Court summarily to inquire into the circumstances."

In order that the illegal character of the proposed free haul of the Friends of Arbitration may clearly appear, we append the special exceptions made in Section 22 of the statute:

"Nothing in this act shall prevent the carriage

storage or handling of property free or at reduced "For the United States, State or municipal gov-

ernments;
"Or for charitable purposes;

"Or to or from fairs and expositions for exhibit

The foregoing exceptions apply to property only, not to passengers. As to the persons who may be transported without illegality on free passes or at reduced rates the law specifies these classes only:

"Or the free carriage of destitute and homeless persons transported by charitable societies; "And the necessary agents employed in such

"Nothing in this act shall be construed to prohibit any common carrier from giving reduced grain to other countries. She has,

rates to ministers of religion; "Or to municipal governments for the transpor tation of indigent persons:

"Or to the inmates of National Homes or State diers and Sallors' Orphan Homes.

"Nothing in this act shall be construed to pr vent railroads from giving free carriage to their own officers and employees:

"Or to prevent the principal officers of any rallroad company from exchanging passes or tickets the doctrine that food is contraband employees."

That is all. Free transportation is open to no other class of passengers a deathblow. On the other hand, she without a violation of the law. Unless it can be shown that the three hundred a light heart, if previously an interdistinguished delegates who will soon be national conference had adopted the in the care of the thrifty Mr. Shaw are principle that food cannot be seized not passengers, but freight, the property of the United States Government, or neutral flag to a neutral port, or even unless their status can be established to an unblockaded belligerent port, as that of destitute and homeless persons unless, on the face of the papers, it is transported by a charitable society, or unless they are all ministers of religion, naval forces of the belligerent. they cannot be hauled out to St. Louis

and back by Mr. CASSATT's railroad, at Secretary SHAW's persuasion, without violating the law that declares such discrimination to be a misdemeanor, punishable by fine or imprisonment in the penitentiary. And the President and his Cabinet officers have sworn to execute the law.

Apparently, this would be a serious matter for Mr. CASSATT. Not only for his sake is it to be hoped that the published report of persuasion is untrue, but also for the sake of Secretary SHAW, the alleged persuader.

A Chinaman in the employ of a Japan-

ese newspaper, who was sent from Pekin

to penetrate as far as Harbin if possible,

was unable to accomplish the entire dis-

tance, but he succeeded in getting as

far as Tieling. The topographical con-

ditions at this place and in the neighbor-

hood he reported to be highly favorable

for defence; and at the time he was there,

at the end of May, the Russians had

already constructed three strong forts

on a hill south of Tieling, had laid mines

along its base, and were extending in-

trenchments and wire defences in vari-

Owing to the cover afforded by the

mountains, numbers of bandits had, the

Chinaman reported, collected along the

line of rail to Harbin, and from time to

time made attempts to destroy the

smaller bridges and culverts. However,

the Russian force guarding the line was

so strong that the raiders were easily

beaten off, but they caused great an-

noyance. The garrison of Mukden he

described as small, the greater part

of it being employed in guarding the

Taken in conjunction with the latest

details of the abandonment of Haicheng,

and the almost certain retreat from

Liaoyang, the Chinaman's report is of

much interest, for it confirms the belief

entertained for some time that a dan-

gerous flanking movement by a strong

Japanese force, aided by the natives,

has been in progress through the moun-

tains lying far to the eastward of the

Shall Food Be Contraband?

We understand that our State Depart-

ment has not yet defined the position

which it means to take with reference to

the view of belligerent rights proclaimed

by Russia, and enforced by the seizure of

some neutral vessels and the destruction

of others. Up to the present time our

citizens have lost cargoes or parts of

cargoes, but not ships; in which respect

they are more fortunate than the Eng-

lish and the Germans. It is, therefore,

possible for us, without any sacrifice of

dignity or interest, to conduct negoti-

ations in a relatively patient way. But

there is one point as to which we hope

that our Government will take from the

outset a determined stand. We refer to

the question whether food products may

in war time be treated as contraband

There is no doubt as to the attitude

of Russia in the matter. Scarcely had

the war begun when she announced

that, under all circumstances, she should

regard foodstuffs consigned to a bel-

ligerent port as contraband of war.

In practice she has gone further and

has seized food products which, accord-

ing to the ship's manifest, were to be

delivered at a Chinese port, the assump-

tion being, apparently, that the com-

modities were to be transshipped thence

to Japan. We cannot permit the Captain

of a war vessel to go behind a ship's

papers. This is the view of a neutral's

rights to which we demanded that

Great Britain subscribe during the South

African War. A cargo of food con-

signed by American citizens to the

Portuguese port of Lorenzo Marques

was seized by a British cruiser on the

theory, for which there probably was

some foundation in fact, that eventually

the food would be sent to the Transvaal

In deference to our remonstrance, the

British Government paid for the cargo,

and acquiesced in the principle that

under such conditions food cannot be

The principle for which our Govern-

ment should, and doubtless will, stand

has, however, a much wider application

than might be inferred from the case

just mentioned. Precedents established

during the South African War and

during our own war with Spain, as well

as in the naval operations which took

place during the Black Flag uprising,

would justify us in propounding the

doctrine that foodstuffs should not be

treated as contraband, even when con-

signed to an unblockaded belligerent

port, unless it can be shown that they

So broad a principle would obviously

not be looked upon as reconcilable with

Russia's national interests. Russia is

one of the few countries which not

only are self-sufficing in the matter

of food supplies, but, in normal years,

are able to export large quantities of

therefore, much to gain and nothing to

lose by declaring food contraband of

war. France might view the question

with indifference, inasmuch as her native

food sapply is usually equal, or nearly

so, to the demand. It is equally plain

that Germany, whose native production

of food falls considerably short of the

consumption, cannot afford to accept

under all circumstances. We need not

say that to Great Britain the enforce-

ment of such a doctrine might deal

might enter on an extensive war with

as contraband when consigned under a

meant to be used by the military or

Next to England, for which it is

are intended for the consumption of

a belligerent army or navy.

dealt with as contraband.

Mukden.

ous directions.

railway station.

railway.

doubt that Great Britain and Germany would cooperate with us in securing, at the earliest possible moment after the Falling Back to Tieling? close of the present war, the promul-According to mail news from Tokio, the first point at which the Russians in their retreat from the south are expected by a belligerent army or navy, neutral to make a serious stand is Tieling, food cargoes consigned, under a neutral about forty-five miles northeast from

seizure. Unnecessary Anxiety in St. Louis.

matter of life and death, we are the

most deeply interested in securing the

adoption of the principle just named.

As England is the greatest importer,

products. If the British market were

closed to us for a considerable time,

gravity of the loss which would thus

For the reasons given, we have no

be inflicted on American farmers.

we could find no customer for the greater

The St. Louis Globe-Democrat is eager o write Judge PARKER's letter of ac-

ceptance for him: "The question for the American people is, Does PARKER indorse his party's tariff plank? He told what he thought about the gold standard, which is not mentioned in the platform in any shape. Now let him tell what he thinks about the tariff. 'We denounce protection as a robbery of the many to enrich the few,' says the St. Louis platform, on which PARKER stands. Is this the candidate's own view?"

The best commentary on this purely Pickwickian phrase in the St. Louis platform was the nomination for Vice-President of a stern and rockbound proectionist.

The Democratic party showed in 1894 that it was, in acts and effect, a protectionist party, no matter what its historical position as to the tariff, and no matter with what passion of rhetoric it had whimpered for a tariff for revenue only in 1892.

Since then the Democratic protectionists have been increasing. The growth of manufactures in the South is likely to reverse in no long time the traditional economic tenets of the Southern Democrats. The number of "robbers" waxes rapidly.

Certain Southern and Western politicians have the habit of rolling, as a sweet morsel, under their tongues this ancient and fishy flubdub about protection and robbery. They like it. It doesn't hurt anybody else. There is no "tariff scare" in it. In power, the Democrats wouldn't knock out protection if they could, and couldn't if they would. Judge PARKER might well regard the protection-as-robbery phrase as mere

The Religious Rum Shop.

surplusage and stuffing.

We print to-day several letters called out by Bishop POTTER's religious or semi-religious dedication of a liquor saloon in censure and in commendation of his proceeding.

One of these correspondents, an Episcopal clergyman, thinks the Bishop's extraordinary proceeding "will take the Christian world by storm," and unquestionably it will make a good deal of noise. Of course, if the theory on which he acted is sound, all Bishops and other clergy would be within the proprieties of their sacred office if they made use of the rum shop as a religious agency and as an adjunct of every church, as a desirable addition to the system of philanthropic agencies with which a city parish

is now supplied. Before this could be done the section of the Liquor Tax law of the State which forbids a liquor saloon to be run within 200 feet of a church would have to be repealed; but if Bishops and other clergy and the religious laity of the State united in calling for the privilege of running rum shops as adjuncts of churches, the Legislature would be unable to resist the demand from such a source. The theory which led to the introduction of that provision into the law is that a liquor saloon is offensive to the religious uses and influences of a church; but if Bishop POTTER's contradictory theory is sound, that a rum shop is a necessary institution to enable "the poor man" to "spend a social evening," and only needs improvement under religious auspices to make it an entirely innocent and morally useful place of resort, its contiguity to a church is desirable rather than objec-

tionable. Certain churches have introduced gymnasiums and provisions for military drill, sewing societies and what not, and in large city parishes is provided a commissary department, from which are issued supplies of food and fuel-all to the end of promoting religion by attracting people to the church. If the liquor saloon whose business has now received so emphatic episcopal sanction deserved such a dedication, the law requiring it to be situated no nearer than 200 feet to a church is an outrage against religion. It is a proper feature to introduce into a parish house itself, so that when people go to get a drink they will go to church incidentally. A parish might also properly include in its machinery of philanthropy a brewery and

a distillery. If the saloon is a harmless social necessity to "the poor man who cannot afford the privileges of a club" and "the effort to close the saloon has been at once the most tragic and most comic in history," as Bishop POTTER contended. why should not the Church and the clergy take it under their own wing, run it themselves, improve it and use it for

the moral elevation of society? It is a novel theory, unquestionably, and it conflicts with the religious conviction and formulated laws of Churches. The Roman Catholic Plenary Council of Baltimore, twenty years ago, in a decree concerning the sale of intoxicating liquors, enjoined on all Catholics to choose some more honorable way of making a living, if possible." That is, the Roman Catholic Church of America looks with disapproval on the saloon and puts a ban on it as a business on a comparatively low level. A distinguished minister of the Presbyterian Church at Princeton seceded from that religious communion because of his arraignment for discipline for violating its Church law forbidding a minister

to assist in getting a license for a liquor saloon. Generally, the Protestant Churches discountenance the liquor traffic, though there can be no canon so are we the greatest exporter of food to that effect in the Episcopal Church, or Bishop POTTER could not have dedicated the saloon on the East Side last

Tuesday. part of our surplus grain and meat. It It is evident, therefore, that unless a would not be easy to exaggerate the radical revolution in both Protestant and Catholic sentiment shall take place, the theory to which Bishop POTTER gave his sanction will not receive the approval either of his own Church or of ligious sentiment in general.

The truth is, he has reduced the

whole matter to an absurdity. There gation of the principle that, unless un- is no reason for the "storm in the religmistakably intended for consumption ious world" which our clerical correspondent says will be raised. The proceeding was no more than an expression flag, to a neutral port, or even to a of individual eccentricity on the part belligerent port, shall not be liable to of a Bishop who sometimes acts from impulse; and in this particular case an impulse which comes from a creditable hatred of hypocrisy. "If I drink myself," says the Bishop, practically, "why should I not help other people to drink, so long as they do it in a decent way." But he forgets that he is not a law for everybody else. He can afford to drink and to indulge in other luxuries which a a poor man must forego. At bottom it is directly rather an economic than a moral question. However it may be with Bishops, absolute sobriety and the curbing of appetites are necessary to men who must work for their living.

In other words, Bishop POTTER has brought into ridicule the movement for a religious liquor traffic, and instead of there being a storm in the religious world because of his proceeding there ought to be rejoicing that by reducing its theory to an absurdity he has killed preposterous undertaking.

When Illinois gave 28,900 plurality for Mr. CLEVELAND in 1892, the Prohibition vote of the State was 25,870. In 1898 it declined to 9,800. In 1900 it was 17,600 and in 1902, election of State Treasurer, 18,000, equivalent on a full vote to 25,000, the figures of 1892.

The Illinois Legislature has 51 members in the Senate and 153 Representatives, the latter being chosen under what is called the "cumulative system," whereby three representatives are elected from each of the 51 districts, each elector voting for two only. Under this arrangement, peculiar to Illinois, there was last year one Prohibition member of the Springfield Legislature. Thus the Prohibitionist party has in Illinois, what it lacks in all other States, a veritable foothold in matters of legislation.

Illinois is one of the close States this ear. The Prohibitionists, who now onduct their national campaign from Chicago, are organizing actively for the fight. Some of them declare that they will put up a hard battle to elect members of the Legislature. They hope to have enough members to hold the balance of power between the two parties if the election is close. They have a fund for campaign uses, and the chairman of the Prohibition national committee, a resident of Chicago, makes many sanguine claims as to the Illinois vote for SWALLOW.

Democrats are encouraged by the renewed activity and revived hopes of the Prohibitionists of Illinois. That State has 27 electoral votes, as many as have Indiana and New Jersey

The "leading Republican politicians of Florida" are reported as conferring at Jacksonville "to devise ways and means for the prosecution of a vigorous campaign." vigorous campaign for the retention of their Federal offices, probably. The heartless political almanacs record the entire Republican vote of Florida as 7,499 in 1900, and as nil in the State election of 1903, when the leading Republican politicians did not even take the trouble to make nominations.

Rainy Day End Seat Problem TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: In a heavy, driving rain the end seats in an open car, unless actually occupied and so kept dry, will get wet. You may pull down the side curtains as far as they will go, but the rain will beat in and settle in big lobules and in little pools on those end seats, and

At the end of the route, where it's "all out," and the car begins to fill up with passengers going the other way, the new passengers find all the seats wet at either end, with a dry spot in the middle; and very naturally the first of the new passengers seat themselves on the dry spots. And now, suppose at some point a little further

And now, suppose at some point a little further up the road a party of three persons gets aboard at some seat that is wet at both ends and whose only dry spot, in the middle, is already occupied. The three persons, of course, would like to sit together. Is it the duty of the man occupying the dry centre seat to move up so that they may sit together? He got there first, when the car was empty, and so got a dry seat. Is he now entitled. by right and in good manners, to hold on to his dry seat and to separate this party and make one member of it go and sit in the wet seat or should he give up his dry seat and move along and sit down in the water himself? And if he doesn't so move along, but hangs on to his dry seat, can that man fairly be described as a hog?

NEW YORE, Aug. 4. BROADWAY.

A Spanish Bandit Story.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-SIF: The intimi dation of a whole trainload of passengers on the illinois Central Railroad by four masked robbers reminds me of a Spanish story which I once heard, epicting the proverbial ingenuousness of the

Once upon a time 300 Galicians were travelling on foot together from a city to a faraway vil-lage, under a labor contract. When they were about half way, a solitary bandit held them up and at the point of a pistol compelled them to letiver their cash. They all shelled out without hey reported their case to the Alcalde. "Why under the sun did you allow a single man to intimidate you?" he asked; and they all replied at once: "But, sir, what could we do? We were

D. SANDRING. BROOKLYN, Aug. 3.

Brate Animals and Immortality.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: In to-day's abuse of animals, and argues that immortality extends to animals.

Most surely, to a believing Christian who knows his Bible there is no question of the immortality of animal life. Read the eighth chapter of the Epistle to the Romans.

If sensible human beings would read and study their Bible daily there would not be so much foolish matter written and said about why evil is permitted in this world. Our human brutes would then know how to treat all animals with kindness and how to treat all humanity with respect and

NEW YORK, Aug. 3.

By a Close Shave. To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Will you cindly let Royal Pride in? He is a modest barber.

BISHOP POTTER AND THE SA-LOON.

in Episcopal Clergyman Shocked by the Episcopal Dedication of a Rum Shop. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: It will not be putting it too strong to assert that the action of Bishop Potter in opening a saloon in New York city with a quasi-religiou will take the Christian world by storm and shock the feelings of all deeply relig ious people. It must mar the closing years of a distinguished episcopate.

I am a clorgyman of many years standing, and having taken alcoholic beverages ever since I drank beer at school I have no prejudio in the matter. Nay, more, I am prepared to defend the use of them both on physical and moral grounds. Besides this, I have always had the greatest admiration for the strengt of character which has given Bishop Potter not only the courage of his convictions but even of his impulses as well. But this does not modify my deliberate opinion that nothing can possibly justify a Bishop in opening with a certain degree of religious for-mality an ordinary saloon, and a saloon which has very little in it that can separate it from a very large number of saloons in New York. A few years ago Bishop Potter made the

tatement that the saloon is "the poor man's club." The statement was questioned, and employed an agent to visit the saloons of the city in order to ascertain what kind of places they were. His report is before me; and from it I learn that while the average saloon is a drinking place where a man gets a glass of whiskey in a few seconds, and eaves for the outer world without having had a chance to sit down and rest, there are very large number of saloons which bear the character of that opened by Bishop Potter. I have inspected some of them myself. They are large and roomy; the bartenders, dressed in white jean jackets, are the very personification of civility, and usually are otal abstainers-for, strange to say, many of the proprietors of saloons will not engage who does not take the pledge. Opposite the bar is a long counter with ee lunch spread on it of the most liberal character, where the "guest" can eat as much as he likes. There is absolutely no restric-tion. No difference is made whether he takes

character, where the "guest" can eat as much as he likes. There is absolutely no restriction. No difference is made whether he takes a five cent beer or a fifteen cent whiskey. At the end of such a saloon there is a parlor with a number of tables, and if the "guest" wishes to sit down and enjoy his glass of lager he can do it. Here the workingman often receives his wages, and transacts business with the contractor. The lavatory arrangements are of the best. In very many of these saloons are pay telephones. They are in fact "clubs." They are also great political centres, as every one knows. But they are also centres of benevolence. For example, a poor woman loses her husband or child, and she has no money for the funeral. She will go to the saloon-keeper, and usually not in vain.

As these and similar facts have been constantly overlooked in dealing with the saloon, I venture to hope that the excitement over the action of Bishop Potter will induce many brewers, saloonkeepers, and politicians seriously to consider whether they cannot take some steps toward making a saloon what the old "tavern" used to be to our forefathers. But the saloons will never be anything but drinking places. They will never cease to be the initiatory step in a drunkard's career, and no amount of episcopal sanction will make them otherwise.

The Church of Christ gains nothing by one of her Bishops putting himself forward as the patron of a reformed saloon. A few years ago the rector of St. George's advocated this very step. Now if Dr. Rainsford and some of his brother clergy had organized what was to be called a "Christian saloon" and had invited the Bishop of the diocese to open it with an address explaining the difference but ween one saloon and another there might have been some excuse for the Bishop's presence. But in the present instance the Bishop travelled hundreds of miles in order to give episcopal sanction to an enterprise started, it is true, by certain laity of the Church but with no pretence whatever of originating any great m

Solomon, supernaturally wise at first, gradually perverted his wisdom by marrying

Solomon, supernaturally wise at first, gradually perverted his wisdom by marrying heathen wives and allowing them to perform heathen worship in Israel. He then prostituted his wisdom and sacred office by building and consecrating altars to the service of Ashtaroth, thus laying the foundation for the sin which God had most peremptorily forbidden and cursed.

How did Solomon ever come to consent to do such a thing? The answer to this question will explain why a Church dignitary of to-day sets up and consecrates an altar of Bacchus beside the altar of Jehovah and calls it blessed.

Surely sacrilege is the mildest term with which to express the true character of such a service. It is taking the saloon into cooperative partnership for money, as was actually expressed in one of the addresses. It is an open step toward establishing Bacchanalian worship, and covering its diabolism with the sacerdotal robe of the priesthood of the Church of Jesus Christ.

Every Bible reader knows the meaning of the Scripture which says in Habakkuk: "Woe unto him that giveth his neighbor drink, that puttest thy bottle to him, and makest him drunken also, that thou mayest look on their nakedness."

You may whitewash the saloon outside, but the in "full of rottenness and dead with the salod and dead with the saloon outside, but

nakedness."
You may whitewash the saloon outside, but within it is "full of rottenness and dead men's bones." It may be ornamented and inscribed, "auxiliary to the Church," yet it remains "the way which seemeth right to a man," "but the end thereof are the ways of death."

of death."

Does Bishop, Potter represent his Church in this freak? If so, I predict that the "Potter's Field" will soon be "full of dry bones, very dry." I hope ra' aer that the Episcopal Church will lay it official hand heavily on this serious and dangerous innovation. his serious and dankers. Aug. 3.

The Proceedings of the Bishop nounced "Absolutely Right." TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir : You

account of a discourse given by that prince

and most human of prelates, Bishop Potter speaks of it as an unusual proceeding. Unusual it may be, but it shows—what most of speaks of it as an unusual proceeding. Unusual it may be, but it shows—what most of us are aware of—what a broad minded man the Bishop is.

He is absolutely right when he says that the saloon, meaning doubtless a properly conducted saloon, is "the poor man's club."

The man who goes into a saloon using it as a club can and does meet men of education and intelligence (the two things do not always go together). He meets workingmen who take a serious interest in the affairs of life and who in their way help to keep the country going. I venture to think that "the poor man's club" is answerable for as few evils as the clubs of the wealthy. I believe that there is less selfishness to be found there, for taking the men who use a saloon as a clubhouse you can find among them some very good fellows.

Let us purify the saloon by all means, but don't take it away altogether. The owner has got to make a living, and if the public does not support him the taxpayers will have to do it, and they may not care about the job.

WILLIAM COVERLY LANGDON.

BROOKLTN, Aug. 3. From a Sufferer From the Salopn.

victims of the alcoholic habit will ever do so. I am a poor man, but I would not change places with Bishop Potter for a million dollars. For I know how awful are the effects of alcohol.

New York, Aug. 4.

From the Gentleman Who Get Up the

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: May 1 beg you, as the chief critic of the Subway Tavern, to give me space for what I have ere to say? It was I who first suggested the enterprise, who have persuaded others to furnish the funds, and who have dene all the work of organization and establishment. I am happy to see that none of our subscribers has recanted after the storm of protest that has beaten about Bishop Potter's head; but whatever happens to the saloon, as the stigator" of it I prefer to be its Loeb.

If you were merely blaming the Bishop as church dignitary for appearing at our "dedication" I should venture to say nothing. The Bishop is amply able to talk back in his own behalf. But you are saying in substance that our experiment is worthless.

I am little concerned as to whether Episcoam deeply concerned that this experiment, which he has publicly indorsed, should have an honest chance, and escape misrepresenta-tion during its initiation.

First, as to the criticisms which have appeared in THE SUN and other newspapers. May I ask these critics whether, in considering the temperance problem, they acknowledge the existence of the 13,000 places in New York city where strong drink is sold? Let me ask further, whether they believe there is any possibility of legislating them out of existence; and still further, whether, law no law, men are going to stop drinking. Is it not true that saloons exist and that drink? Will not, then, our extremist friends allow me to wrestle with the condition? shall leave them to wrestle with the theory. I shall be happy if they shall come into the

Subway Tavern and snatch the bibulous away from the bar into the pale of teetotalism. But I shall be unhappy if they inter-fere with my work of snatching the bibulous away from indecency, immorality and depravity. Are there to be no helping hands extended to the climbers half way up the hillside of continence? In the name of all the wretches in all the groggeries who drink that the proprietor may grow rich as they grow poor, I beg that I may be permitted to help them if I can. I may not raise them to the throne where the pure hand of absolutism would deign to touch them, but I may just raise them to their feet, so that they may walk toward the hazy height of per-

fection.

To the good women of the W. C. T. U. let me reply that I believe in them except as to their attitude toward the army canteen and their silence on intoxicating patent

in the real shape in the norm of the forth forther funeral. Shape will go to the solon-keeper, and usually not in values been condant there and similar state when the condens of the condition of the protect will be condens on the condition of the condens of the

Report on the Tavern. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: All this rot about The Tavern aroused my curiosity and took me and a friend a good bit out of our way for his usual highball and my beer We got them, at the regular price; and, looking around, we saw we were in a very ordinary ginmill. The same brewery advertisements as elsewhere, the same common brands of cigars; the same 5 cent sandwiches; the same tables and other furniture, and everything else precisely as in any beer saloon right in the neighborhood of the Sun office or any-

where else.

If this is Bishop Potter's grogshop, I declare to you, on the honor of a fairly decent man, I think you might better give your free advertising to the other saloons in the vicinity run by men whose families are dependent upon the profits of the business

BROOKLYN, Aug. 4. CHARLES MUNSON.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: If any restau rant will make arrangements with a nearby farmer to deliver sweet corn picked in the morning of the day on which it is eaten, that restaurant will do business than it can handle. more business than it can nanue.

Few city people know how good aweet corn is, for they can only get it after it has lost its aweetness. If there is any better than the old-fashioned Stow ell's Evergreen, I would like to know H. C. D. NEW YORK, Aug. 4.

Correcting a False Report. Milan Correspondence Poughkeepsie Courier.
The report started in this neighborhood about Miss Viola Sherow, a well known young lady of this place, is untrue. It has been said that Miss Sherow chased Mr. A. J. Link's hogs out of her father's field with her dog. She did chase the hogs out of her father's garden, but not with a dog.

The Trouble at Mush. From the Baltimore American

(A party of soldiers were ambushed by Armeni oldiers near Mush.) soldiers near Mush.)
There's war in Corea, there's trouble galore
'Way off on Manchuria's chang girdled ahore;
There's worry in Hayti o'er President Nord's
Wild threats; and the British Assembly of Lords
Is incensed and exercised over the way
Old Russia is swiping their ships day by day,
But all of these things are but twaddle and gush.
For

There's real pitch-bartle o'er asphaltum pools 'Way down in the tropics where Castro still rules. There's terror in Finland, there's fighting in Swat. The Dutch are at outs with the bare Hottentot; There's civil disturbance in Crippie Creek mines. And Kipling has written Joe C. a few lines The packers and strikers are having a brush. But

Hush, oh. hush! There's trouble at Mush!

Now where is this city of edible name? How butteth it into publicity's game? Whoever before knew there was such a place As now seems disposed to be hunting disgrace? I've searched my geography, lid unto lid, But yet from my vision this city is hid. Perhaps for my knowledgeleasness I should bit But

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: May But Hush, oh, hush! God forgive Bishop Potter! I doubt if the There's trouble at Mus!

CONTRACT WORK IN MANILA. American Firms Warned That It May Ge to Foreign Concerns.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 4 .- Major J. F. Case of the Engineer Corps, city engineer officer of Manila, has secured the permission of Secretary of War Taft to bring to the atten. tion of American steel manufacturing and bridge building concerns the fact that foreigners are securing contracts for construction work in the Philippines through using methods of Yankee enterprise and energy. A contract for the con-struction of a big bridge in the Philippines was recently awarded to a German concern Major Case says, because of the apathy shown by similar firms in the United States.

Officers of the War Department would prefer to see all similar contracts awarded to American concerns, and in view of the fact that within the next few years over \$5,000,000 will be spent by the Philippine Government for improvements in and about the city of Manila alone it was desired to call the attention of American concerns to this fact and show them that unless they adopt more businesslike methods, the contracts will inevitably go to foreign con-

The Philippine Government will soon issue \$4,000,000 worth of bonds, to complete the water works system and sewerage system of the city of Manila, the plans for which have already been prepared and approved. In about two years the city canals will be willed and made aspitary and a complete will be willed and made aspitary and a complete will be willed and made aspitary and a complete will be willed and made aspitary and a complete will be will be willed and made aspitary and a complete will be willed and made aspitary and a complete will be wil will be walled and made sanitary and a cor plete park system laid out. At the present time the city of Manila has no bonded inlebtedness and has a surplus in the treasury

CONTROVERSY OVER AN ELK SKIN. It Is That of an Olympic Mountain or "Roosevelt Elk."

WASHINGTON, Aug. 4. Secretary of the Treasury Shaw, F. W. True of the Smithsonian Institution, Comptroller of the Treasury Tracewell and Roy M. Cabot, a citizen of the State of Washington, are all involved in the origin and fate of a fine elk skin. The skin, properly known as that of the Olympic elk, an unusually fine species found in the Olympic Mountains in the State of Washington, but latterly known on the Pacific Coast as the "Roosevelt elk," was obtained by Cabot for the Smithsonian exhibit at the St. Louis fair.

exhibit at the St. Louis fair.

Cabot applied for his pay, the price agreed upon being \$150, but the game warden of King county, Washington, had notified Secretary Shaw that the elk was shot out of season and that it is therefore the property of the State of Washington.

of the State of Washington.

The question of payment was turned over to Comptroller Tracewell, but he says it does not appear that the skin declared forfeited to the State and the skin now on exhibition at St. Louis are one and the same. Until this point is settled, he recommends that payment be made to nobody.

IN MEMORY OF ADMIRAL TAYLOR. General Order to the Navy Announcing

His Death. WASHINGTON, Aug. 4 .- Secretary of the Navy Morton has issued a general order to the navy announcing the death of Rear Admiral Henry C. Taylor, Chief of the Bureau of Navigation, who died at Copper

Cliff, Canada, July 26. It says: "His administration of the personnel of the navy was marked by many reforms which grew out of his conception of the military efficiency of the fleet. He labored to encourage nobility in the squadrons, energy and initiative on the part of officers and healthy enthusiasm among the enlisted men. It was the navy's misfortune that his services as chief of the Bureau of Navi-gation came so soon to an end and that so his services as chief of the Bureau of Navigation came so soon to an end and that so distinguished a career was not crowned by flying his flag in chief command afloat, the pride of every sea officer's ambition."

The Navy Department received to-day copies of resolutions of respect to the memory of Admiral Taylor adopted by the General Board of the Navy and the Naval War College at Newport. College at Newport.

ST. LOUIS BRIDGE MONOPOLY.

Secretary Taft to Decide Whether the Government Shall Proceed Against It. WASHINGTON, Aug. 4.-The War Department to-day received the brief of Attorney-General Edward C. Crow of Missouri, in he matter of the consolidation of the Judge Advocate-General Davis will make an early report to Secretary of War Taft. who will decide whether or not the United States Government shall proceed against

States Government shall proceed against the bridge companies.

The Attorney-General of Missouri began action against the companies some time ago in an endeavor to break up what he termed a monopoly in restraint of trade, but the court held that the corporations were terminal companies and therefore not subject to the laws with regard to the consolidation of railroads. The State attorney thereupon appealed to the War Department, which is directly charged by Congress with authority over the construction and operation of bridges over navigable streams.

POST OFFICES IN PANAMA. Ten Established Along the Canal Line

-Sanitary Conditions Bad. Lawrence Letherman, chief post office inspector at Boston, and Alfred A. Smith, an inspector at Washington, returned on Wednesday from Panama. They had been there for two weeks establishing post offices under the instructions of the Panama Canal Zone Commission at Washington.
Ten fourth class offices were installed all of them on the line of the canal. Then are no money order offices there yet, but it is said Cristobal and Ancon, the two terminals, will be making money order exchanges with New York and San Francisco, within a month.

"But," said Mr. Letherman, "before anything can be done down there the sanitary

thing can be done down there, the sanitary conditions must be improved. Malaria and fever will kill workmen faster than they can be transported. Mosquitoes are so thick that the inhabitants are beginning to build houses with net wire screens over them to keep the insects out. to build houses with net wire screens over them, to keep the insects out."

The Diamond Shoal Searchlight Repaired. WASHINGTON, Aug. 4.—The big reflect ing searchlight of the Diamond Lightship, which was disabled in July, has been repaired and was put in use on July 28. The searchlight can be seen twenty miles away and has been of the greatest value in warning mariners off the dangerous reef it marks.

New President of Liberta.

From the Baltimore Heraid.

Few Baltimoreans ever hear of Liberia, the negro republic on the African west coast, and few know that a Baltimore colored man, the Rev. Ernest Lyon, is United States Minister at its capital Monrovia, But, despite its obscurity, Liberia is nevertheless a wide-awake republic, and the other than the state of the sta day it inaugurated a new President. His nam s Thomas Barclay and he is a native of Barbados, n the West Indies. In 1855 he was taken to Liberia as a boy, and since his early manhood he has been a politician there. As Secretary of State he accomplished the novel feat of keeping a balance in real cash in the republic's treasury, and for this his cash in the republic a treasury, and to the grateful fellow citizens made him president.

Liberia was originally intended to be a refuge for disastisfied colored brothers from the United States, but at present there are only 25,000 English-speaking negroes there. The rest of the population of 1,500,000 is made up of African savaged.

The the descendant of the original settlers from But the descendants of the original settlers from the United States are still supreme, and the repub-lic, as small republics go, is well ordered. Revoutions are unknown and trade is booming.

From the Washington Post.

JEFFERSON CITT, Mo., Aug. 2.—A poll of the number of the penitentiary here to-day showed ous vote against Joe Folk for Governor.

True Merit.

rer—Le he modest?

ar—Very. He doesn't let his-eight hand
when he pute his toot in tt.